



HR0649

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the pastor and
4 congregation of Central Christian Church in Decatur on the
5 175th anniversary of the church; and

6 WHEREAS, Pastor Joseph Hostetler organized a small group of
7 parishioners into the Christian Church of Macon County in 1834;
8 the church first met in Macon County's log cabin courthouse;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, In 1855 a new church building was erected on the
11 corner of Main and North Streets; by 1893 the membership had
12 grown and the congregation moved to North Edward Street; a new
13 church was built in 1905 at Edward and William Streets and the
14 present building had its cornerstone laid in 1955; and

15 WHEREAS, Charles Watkins has been senior pastor since 1992;
16 he notes that the church is the eighth largest contributor in
17 the Disciples of Christ denomination and the twentieth largest
18 congregation in the country; and

19 WHEREAS, Several members of Central Christian Church were
20 recently honored for their longstanding membership, including
21 Ruth Ewing, Dorthy Dakan, Billie Harmon, Helen Brobst, George

1 and Patricia Kuhns, and Barbara Ray Tyler; and

2 WHEREAS, The church anniversary was celebrated in
3 September; October will host a celebration of 175 years of
4 music, November will celebrate 175 years of service, and
5 December will be special with a celebration of 175 years of
6 Christmas at Central Christian Church; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
9 congratulate the pastor and congregation of Central Christian
10 Church and wish them the best for their future; and be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to Pastor Charles Watkins as a symbol of our respect
14 and esteem.